Smart cards for employees posted at airports

1641. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether BCAS after conducting series of security audits has now decided to restrict the movement of officials and staff posted at various airports;

(b) if so, whether the employees of the various agencies working at airports would be issued 'smart cards';

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of foolproof security measures BCAS propose to adopt at various airports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SYED SHAHNAWAZ HUSSAIN): (a) The existing system of Photo Identity Cards does restrict the movement of officials and staff posted at various airports.

(b) and (c) Taking into account the latest developments in the field of Technology we are looking for a better access control system in the near future.

(d) The following measures have been taken, *inter alia*, to strengthen security at the airports in order to prevent hijackings and other unlawful interference with civil aviation operations:

(i) Deployment of Central Industrial Security Force at all operational airports in a time-bound manner;

(ii) Deployment of Quick Reaction Teams at major airports;

(iii) Ladder-point security check of passengers and their hand-baggage made mandatory;

(iv) Strengthening of perimeter security;

(v) Deployment of Sky Marshals on all routes of our scheduled airlines at random basis.